

R. Booth Goodwin II, United States Attorney Southern District of West Virginia

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800-659-8726*(304)345-2200 Melvin.Smith@usdoj.gov

THREE MEN SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR STEALING MASSIVE AMOUNTS OF DIESEL FUEL INTENDED FOR CSX RAIL CARS

Stolen Fuel Later Sold to Individuals in West Virginia and Kentucky

HUNTINGTON, W. Va. – Three individuals were sentenced in federal court today for their roles in a conspiracy to steal thousands of gallons of diesel fuel valued at more than \$900,000, and selling it to businesses and individuals in West Virginia and Kentucky. Darrell Glen Deerfield, 47, of Rush, Kentucky was sentenced to one year and one day in prison; Joey Williams, 52, of Greenup, Kentucky was sentenced to one year and one day in prison; and Paul David Smith, 40, of Barboursville, West Virginia was sentenced to one year and one day in prison. The three defendants pleaded guilty in January to a one-count information charging them with conspiracy to transport and sell goods stolen from interstate shipments from April 2007 until September 2008.

The convictions stem from an investigation conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation into a major fuel theft from two corporations -- CSX Transportation, Inc. ("CSX") and CEVA Logistics, Inc. ("CEVA"). The investigation revealed that during the conspiracy, Deerfield was employed by CEVA, a Texas corporation which contracted with CSX to transport diesel fuel to various locations throughout Kentucky and West Virginia for the purpose of refueling CSX locomotives. CSX transports goods by rail throughout the eastern United States.

At his January plea hearing, Deerfield, who was responsible for transporting the diesel fuel, admitted that he conspired with Williams and Smith to heist a portion of the diesel fuel from a fueling facility in Russell, Kentucky. The fuel was destined for delivery to CSX trains. The three men admitted that the stolen fuel was subsequently given to Smith who would sell it to various businesses and individuals in West Virginia and Kentucky.

The defendants were ordered to pay \$811,400 in restitution. Each defendant was also sentenced to three years of supervised release.

U.S. District Judge Robert C. Chambers handled the proceedings. Assistant United States Attorney Charles T. Miller is handled the prosecution. CSX Police assisted in the investigation.

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